

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>In re Application of:</b>	Qian ZAHO, et al.	<b>Examiner:</b>	Ishrat I. SHERALI
<b>Application No.:</b>	10/066,339	<b>Group Art Unit:</b>	2621
<b>Filing Date:</b>	January 30, 2002	<b>Office Action Date:</b>	December 19, 2005
<b>Docket No.</b>	10758-36	<b>Confirmation No.</b>	9849
<b>Title:</b>	<b>LOSSLESS AND NEAR-LOSSLESS SOURCE CODING FOR MULTIPLE ACCESS NETWORKS</b>		
		<b>Customer No.</b>	30076

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sirs:

In response to the Office Action of December 19, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Claims 1-7 and 31-34 are pending in the present application. Claims 8-30 and 35-38 are withdrawn.

Claims 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Slepian et al (Noiseless coding of Correlated Information Sources, IEEE Transaction on Information Theory, Vol. IT-19 No. 4, July 1973) in view of Yan et al. (On Instantaneous Codes for Zero Error Coding of Two Correlated Sources, IEEE 0-7803-5857-0/00).

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims.